

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 CPR-01 A-01 MED-02 INR-07

CIAE-00 NSC-05 DODE-00 /042 W

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P 272305Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6917

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 6314

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MILI EC

SUBJECT: DENIAL REQUEST FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AT WALTER REED FOR
DEPENDENTS OF BRIG. GEN. RAUL GONZALEZ ALVEAR, ECUADOREAN ARMY

REF: CLARKE/CORR TELECONS

1. LATE ON THE AFTERNOON OF FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, DEFENSE ATTACHE
OFFICE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM BRIG. GEN. SOLIS, ACTING
COMMANDING GENERAL, ECUADOREAN ARMY, REQUESTING OUR ASSISTANCE
IN OBTAINING MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS AT WALTER REED FOR THE
WIFE AND SON OF BRIG. GEN. RAUL GONZALEZ ALVEAR, CHIEF OF
STAFF, ECUADOREAN JOINT COMMAND. EMBASSY ALSO RECEIVED AN
IDENTICAL REQUEST IN JANUARY 75 FROM GEN. GONZALEZ. WE ADVISED
HIM IN JANUARY WE COULD NOT OBTAIN APPOINTMENTS AT WALTER REED,
BUT WOULD ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS AT GORGAS HOSPITAL,
CANAL ZONE. GEN. GONZALEZ NEVER RESPONDED TO OUR WRITTEN
ANSWER IN JANUARY DESPITE REPEATED CALLS FROM THE DAO TO
DETERMINE HIS DECISION.

2. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, GEN. GONZALEZ TELEPHONED FIRST
FOR ME THEN THE DATT, TO INQUIRE WHY WE HAD NOT ANSWERED THE
LETTER FROM GEN. SOLIS. WHEN HE WAS ADVISED THAT WE MOST
LIKELY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO OBTAIN APPOINTMENTS AT
WALTER REED HE REPLIED THAT HE HAD CONTACTED AMBASSADOR
CARDENAS IN WASHINGTON TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH THAT
CHANNEL, AND THAT DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS WERE ONLY WAITING
FOR US TO SEND THEM A CABLE IN ORDER TO APPROVE THE
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REQUEST. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HIS SON WAS ALREADY IN

WASHINGTON AND THAT A HOSPITAL IN THE WASHINGTON AREA
OTHER THAN WALTER REED WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO GORGAS.

3. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION WITH DATT I ADVISED THE DATT TO
INFORM GEN. GONZALEZ THAT I WOULD NOT REQUEST WALTER REED
BECAUSE OF THE HEAVY LOAD THERE AND THAT IF HE NOW FELT
THAT TIME WAS IMPORTANT WE COULD BETTER SERVE HIS NEEDS BY
ATTEMPTING ARRANGEMENTS AT GORGAS. WHEN GEN. GONZALEZ WAS
SO ADVISED BY THE DATT HE BECAME SOMEWHAT IRRITATED, MAKING
REMARKS AS "I DON'T WANT SOMETHING LIKE THIS
TO AFFECT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES" AND "I
INTEND TO KEEP IN CONTACT WITH MY AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON
ON MY REQUEST". DATT ASSURED GEN. GONZALEZ HE WOULD BE
INFORMED IMMEDIATELY IF/WHEN PERMISSION WAS GIVEN TO USE
GORGAS FACILITIES.

4. GEN. GONZALEZ IS WORKING THROUGH ECUADOREAN AMBASSADOR
CARDENAS IN ATTEMPT TO SECURE ADMISSION FOR HIS DEPENDENTS
TO WALTER REED HOSPITAL. HAVING DECLINED TO FORWARD HIS
REQUEST, I TRUST THE DEPARTMENT WILL INSURE THAT THEY ARE
NOT ADMITTED.

BREWSTER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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